

Land Owner
Address
City, State Zip

Subject: Notification of increased flow in the Frenchman Hills Wasteway between approximately April 1, 2016 and May 31, 2016

««GreetingLine»»

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) Operations and Technical Services Program will be increasing flow in the Frenchman Hills Wasteway up to approximately 1,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) from early April to late May 2016. In past years, flow has averaged up to approximately 500 cfs so this new flow rate will be higher than what on average has been conveyed through the wasteway. This increased flow will enable Reclamation and Quincy Columbia Basin Irrigation District operators and hydrologic technician staff to better correlate the changes in flow to gaging stations on the wasteway. You are receiving this letter because you may be affected.

In 2015, Reclamation began diverting additional water from Billy Clapp Lake into Brook Lake and Upper Crab Creek to supplement the South Columbia Basin Irrigation District's (SCBID) water supply in Potholes Reservoir. This project to add water to Potholes Reservoir for use by the SCBID is termed the Potholes Supplemental Feed Route (PSFR). Two main channels are planned to convey this water, Crab Creek and Frenchman Hills Wasteway. The flow into the Frenchman Hills Wasteway between April and May 2016 will also be used as a test diversion for the PSFR and will be closely watched to ensure the planned effects of the increased flow are in line with expectations.

Reclamation is developing a webpage in the near future for local residents to track activities related to the PSFR and to obtain various documents that have been developed as part of this effort. More information will be available on that website soon. In the meantime, if you have any questions or experience any issues during the test period, please contact Toni E. Turner, Program Manager for the Operations and Technical Services Program in the Ephrata Field Office at tturner@usbr.gov or at 509.754.0244.

Sincerely,

Clint Wertz
Ephrata Field Office Manager

Cc –